

WOMAN FACING GETS RARE BOOKS

Stenographer Accused of Theft of Fine Volumes Says This Mysterious Person Heads Organized Band of Thieves.

THREATENS TO TELL ALL.

He Declares the Plunderers Are Prominent Book Collectors and that They Carry on Their Operations Through Agents.

Thomas Williams, the young stenographer arrested on the complaint of George H. Richmond, a book dealer, who accused him of stealing from his shop several rare books valued at \$750, who seen by an Evening World reporter in his cell in the pen of the Jefferson Market Court to-day, told a remarkable story of criminal methods employed by rare book collectors to increase their collections.

"If I were to tell the inside history," he said, "of the workings of a certain gang of men I would involve some of the most prominent book collectors in this country in a scandal that would ultimately send them to jail. Many of these collectors are organized into a gang, and they will stop at nothing in order to get possession of rare books. They have in their employ several men and women who make it a business to visit book stores and steal rare books and autograph letters."

A University Man.

"I am a graduate of the University of Rochester and came to New York to try to earn enough to marry on, as I have been engaged to a beautiful girl in Buffalo for some time. First I worked as a stone setter and then as a stenographer. One day I met a young man in a cafe who told me of the 'easy money' that could be made by working for this ring of book collectors."

"As I was discontented, I readily consented to go to work for them. They then took me to a woman who is the real head and brains of the gang that does the stealing of rare books all over this country and in Europe. This woman is one of the most beautiful in New York and moves in one of the best social circles in the city. Though I got a good idea of the value of books while in college, it was through listening to the brief lectures of this woman to her tools that I really gained an intimate knowledge of the value of rare books and autograph letters."

His Identity Concealed.

The young prisoner, who said his name was not Williams, and that his father and mother lived in Buffalo and were very well off, declared that if pressed he would reveal the secret workings of this ring of collectors. He said that his brother, who is a friend of "Big Tim" Sullivan, and that through him and other influential friends he hoped to escape imprisonment.

When Williams was arraigned before Magistrate Breen he asked for a postponement. His arraignment was adjourned until next Wednesday, and he went back to his cell under \$1,500 bail. When he was arraigned there were several large book stores present in the court-room who declared that they had seen him in their employ and were often come to them offering to sell valuable books and autograph letters.

SUICIDE IN FERRY HOUSE.

Hersey Put a Bullet in His Head and Died in Bellevue.

Albert Hersey, a plasterer, committed suicide this afternoon by shooting himself in the head in the East Thirty-fourth Street ferry building. He died in Bellevue Hospital.

KING EDWARD GETS READY FOR TOUR.

Starts for Lisbon Next Monday and Reports of His Ill Health Lack Confirmation.

LONDON, March 25.—The vague suggestion of the Liverpool Post that King Edward is in poor health and suffers from depression does not find confirmation in well-informed quarters. The King is frequently seen in public and is apparently in excellent health and spirits. He left London this afternoon to visit the Earl of Derby at Knowsley Park, Lancashire, and to attend the Grand National Steeplechase at Liverpool to-morrow.

The King will start on Monday next for Lisbon and thence he will go on a yachting tour. Preparations are under way for his start.

Queen Alexandra is to leave the same day to spend three weeks at Copenhagen, which is hardly compatible with the suggestion that King Edward is in ill health.

BOY SNATCHED HIS CASH.

King Made the Mistake of Counting His Roll in the Street.

Henry King, of No. 66 Greenwich street, was standing on the corner of Greenwich and Morris streets last night counting a roll of bills. Four boys bumped up against him, and before he realized what had happened the money had been snatched from his hand and the boys were scampering down the street.

He let out a yell that attracted the attention of Detectives McCormick and Schaffer, of the Church street station. They gave chase after the boys and caught them. The prisoners were arraigned before Magistrate Pool in the Tombs Police Court to-day. One of them, John Murray, confessed that he grabbed the money, and he was held in \$1,000 bail for trial. William Behler, another of the gang, pleaded guilty, but he was also held. Max West and James Burke, the other two, were discharged.

SOCIETY ADOPTS PHILOSOPHY CURE.

Shrewd Chicago Woman Appropriates the Teachings of the Ancient and Adapts Them to the Needs of the Jaded Rich.

HAVEMEYERS ARE PATIENTS.

Wall Street Operators, Too, Find the Rest Afforded Strained Nerves Cheap at Twenty Dollars Per Treatment.

New York society has a new fad. The 550, which in the course of the last few years has dabbled in palmistry, toyed with crystal-gazing and took the occult to its very heart, has now adopted a brand-new system of mental philosophy and incidentally of mental healing.

The philosophy of ourselves is its name, and Mrs. John Vance Cheney, wife of the well-known librarian and literature of the Windy City, is its prophet.

Several months ago Mrs. Cheney, who for years has been interested in the study of the influence of mind over matter, came to New York by special invitation to lecture before the Emma Willard Society, under the auspices of Mrs. Russell Sage.

Interests Society.

Her talk, in which she exposed briefly her new system of thought, dealing with what she characterized as "the various phases of mental philosophy," interested among other society women present Mrs. John C. Havemeyer, wife of one of the retired multi-millionaires of the great sugar trust family.

John C. Havemeyer has for many years suffered from a nervous affection, complicated by insomnia. The millionaire became interested in his wife's account of Mrs. Cheney's lecture. Later he came to New York and persuaded Mrs. Cheney to treat his case.

Mr. Havemeyer Becomes a Patient.

Mrs. Cheney consented to undertake Mr. Havemeyer's cure, and although he is still undergoing treatment at the present time he considers himself a well man and is one of those most interested in establishing a school of the new philosophy in New York City.

Shortly after he began to take the treatment he persuaded his daughter to come to New York from Robin's Nest and see Mrs. Cheney about her eyes, which have long troubled her.

To a World reporter who saw her to-day at the Collingwood Mrs. Cheney confirmed the story of Mr. Havemeyer's cure and talked briefly of her system of healing.

"I am sorry this matter should have become public," she said, for although my philosophy is 3,000 years old, I am afraid that for a great many people it is 2,000 years ahead of the times."

Gives Mental Poise.

"My treatment is difficult to explain, for it varies with different people. It is entirely mental. I try to help people to help themselves, and utilize the special interest in life of each one to do it. If they are religious I make their religion help them to keep cheerful and well, or to make the most of their literary turn I compel their interest in books to help them. What I give them is mental poise. Now, I do not want my treatment to be confounded with Christian Science, for Christian Science does away with doctors. I have no objection to establishing a school in New York by Mr. Havemeyer and other persons I have treated. Yes, I have been backing to any amount. But as yet I have no definite plans on the subject."

Friend of Mr. Havemeyer told the reporter that he had already given largely to Miss Cheney's Chicago school, and that the whole Havemeyer family were loud in their praises of the new treatment.

As a Help to Wall Street.

"You would be surprised at the number of society men and women who have taken it up," she said. "I know several thoroughly sceptical Wall Street brokers who take Mrs. Cheney's treatment to soothe their nerves. They cheerfully pay \$20 a treatment for the benefit it is to them."

OPERATION HELPS EMMA EAMES.

Singer Better Now, and Expects to Have Entirely Recovered Within a Few Days.

Mrs. Emma Eames, who was forced to retire from the Grand Opera company at the height of the season, owing to ill-health, is recovering at the Hotel Marie Antoinette from a slight operation performed by Dr. Abraham Jacob and Dr. Clement Cleveland. Mrs. Eames expects to be fully recovered within a few days.

The prima donna's affection was not one of the heart. It grew out of the physical breakdown which caused her temporary retirement from the operatic stage. At the end of last season Mrs. Eames sang at Covent Garden during the summer, as she was anxious to prepare herself for new roles in "Tosca" and "The Merry Widow."

She returned to New York a few days ago much improved, but Dr. Jacob decided that a slight operation would insure her entire return to health. The operation was successfully accomplished, and Mrs. Eames has been assured by her physicians that she will be in better physical condition than ever for her work next year.

Within a few weeks Mrs. Eames's husband, Julian, will have completed some portraits which he has been painting of Philadelphia society folk. They will then go to their castle near Valenciennes for the first real vacation they have enjoyed in two years.

MRS. JOHN VANCE CHENEY, WHO ORIGINATED THE PHILOSOPHY CURE.



FORTUNE HAS BRED WANTS.

Miss L'Hommedieu, Heiress of Her Step-Grandfather, Can't Possibly Do with Less Than \$6,000 a Year.

WAS SIMPLE COUNTRY GIRL.

Fannie E. L'Hommedieu, the young girl who was made wealthy several years ago when Thomas E. Broadway died and left her his entire fortune, the exclusion of his relatives, cannot live now on less than \$6,000 a year.

Tom Broadway, who married the young girl's grandmother after being divorced by his first wife, left her a fortune of \$300,000. Before Broadway had come to their home in Islip and married her grandmother, Miss L'Hommedieu was just a simple country maid who had never aspired to Paris gown.

Now Mr. L'Hommedieu, her father, has filed an accounting in the Surrogate's Court at Islip in which he declares that the expenses of his daughter from April 27, 1901, to Feb. 21, 1903, amounted to \$13,736.30. He did this in compliance with an order secured by Fidelity Deposit Company, of Maryland.

This sum represents the entire income from the estate left to the young girl. Mr. L'Hommedieu declares that it is impossible to support her on a cent less, even though she moves in the primitive circles of Islip society.

MISS THAW MAY NOT WED ENGLISH EARL.

Mother Won't Increase Her Allowance of \$25,000, Even if Countess of Yarmouth.

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WASHINGTON, March 25.—Mrs. W. A. Thaw, whose daughter's engagement to the Earl of Yarmouth was announced a few days ago, insists that foreign nobles are being quoted too high in the American market in view of the present supply. As a result, she has refused to increase her daughter's allowance beyond \$25,000 a year, preferring, rather, that the match be broken off.

As the story goes, the Earl has appealed to her to add to the amount, but she has positively declined to do so. She gave it as her opinion that the sum was ample and that noblemen are not so hard to come by as they were in the past. It is now believed here that the marriage will not take place.

LITTLE MOTHER DRINKS POISON.

Despairing at Last in Her Efforts to Keep Her Family from Want, She Decides to End All in Death.

HER BROTHER FINDS HER.

May Collins, who since the death of her stepmother ten years ago has been known to the neighbors as a "little mother," swallowed an ounce of carbolic acid to-day at her home, No. 420 West Forty-fifth street, and is reported to be dying in Roosevelt Hospital.

Melancholia is attributed by the police as the cause which made the young woman seek death. She is twenty-one years old and for more than ten years has been the housekeeper for her family. Her mother died when she was a mere child and with her stepmother she was a great favorite. When the stepmother died ten years ago it threw upon May the responsibilities of housekeeper. She assumed and executed with such fidelity that her family paid her a stipulated sum each week. This she saved. Her father died last December and left her to support her brother, Harry, and her stepbrother, John.

Since then she has spent for household needs the savings which had accrued and recently it has been pretty hard for the young woman to supply sufficient food for the table. The boys worked, but their earnings were small and several times she spoke of the time, which seemed approaching, when the little family would be broken up. She was particularly despondent last night and mentioned the hard luck they were having, saying she could see no way out of the difficulty.

Before daylight to-day her brother Harry heard groans from her room and found her on the floor with the empty carbolic acid bottle beside her. At Roosevelt Hospital, where she was sent in an ambulance, the doctors said she would probably die.

HAS ANYBODY SEEN MISS MAYO'S DOG YET?

He Isn't Bigger than a Pint of Penicillin, and She Accidentally Dropped Him Out of Her Reticule.

Margaret Mayo, of Grace George's company, offered a reward of \$100 to-day for the return of her Mexican terrier. Now this microscopic hound was a present to Miss Mayo from Senator Romero, the Mexican Minister. It is said that the Senator has a dozen of them that are valued in the neighborhood of \$1,000.00. The dog answers to the name of Yet. All this is introductory. Here is the story of the dog.

Miss Mayo lives at No. 34 Central Park West. It is said that she is going to purchase this apartment out of what she saved from her salary in the last few months. This morning No. 34 was turned into a pound. Everybody who had a dog that looked like Yet was up after the \$100 reward. But Yet has not yet shown up. Miss Mayo, who is prostrated over the loss of her pet, will double the reward to-morrow.

HE BEAT WIFE, BABY IN ARMS.

Mrs. O'Keefe Clung to the Little One While Her Husband Knocked Her Down and Kicked Down.

HE HIT ANOTHER WOMAN.

Struck Her Over Policeman's Shoulder and Knocked Her Over, Smashing a Lamp She Held—Son Tells of Father's Cruelty.

After Mrs. O'Keefe, of One Hundred and Sixty-ninth street and Nelson avenue, had related a story of almost inhuman cruelty inflicted on her by her husband, to Magistrate Zeller, in the Morrisania Court, to-day, the Magistrate turned to the man, who was under arrest, and asked what he had to say.

"I know I did wrong," said O'Keefe, "but my heart was broken."

"Well, I'll hold you \$100 bail for trial," said the Magistrate, "and give you a chance to get it mended."

O'Keefe was arrested last night by Policeman John Foster, of the High-bridge station. The policeman had entered the house, having heard cries for help coming from the third-floor windows. At the entrance to the house the policeman met Mr. Elizabeth Day, who lives on the floor over the O'Keefe's. She told the policeman she thought O'Keefe was murdering his wife, and that she had heard him beating her for nearly an hour.

Mrs. Day had a lighted lamp in her hand and she followed the policeman upstairs to the door of the O'Keefe's apartment. The policeman knocked on the door and it was opened by O'Keefe. He asked O'Keefe what he was doing, but before the man answered he saw Mrs. Day standing in the hall. Before Foster could prevent it the man shot his arm over the policeman's shoulder, striking Mrs. Day in the face and knocking her down. Luckily the lamp, which fell on the floor, went out and did not explode.

Foster pushed the man back into the room and found Mrs. O'Keefe crouched in a corner, her face covered with blood, holding a three-months-old baby. Mrs. O'Keefe had only one arm, which was a mass of bruises from blows which, she said, she had wanted O'Keefe to ask an eleven-year-old son of the O'Keefe's what his father had been doing, and the boy answered that his father had knocked his mother down repeatedly, kicked her and put his foot on her neck. The woman refused to make any complaint against her husband, but O'Keefe was locked up on complaint of assault.

When arraigned in court O'Keefe tried to excuse himself by saying that he had been drinking. Mrs. O'Keefe said that last Saturday night her husband had put her and the baby out of the house and they had been forced to sleep in a barn all night. He is a foreman in the subway.

CHILD'S BODY IN CLOTH BAG.

Had Been Mutilated with a Knife and There Are Other Evidence that Murder Was Committed.

POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING.

The Jersey City police are investigating the probable murder of a six months' old female child.

John Reardon, of No. 110 Essex street, while at work constructing a sewer in the rear of a house at No. 109 Morris street, found a neatly sewed cloth bag at the bottom of an outhouse. He cut the bag to see what was inside and soon a baby's hand came into view.

At the Morgue it was discovered that the bag contained the nude body of a female child, probably six months old. An attempt had been made to cut up the body before sewing it in the bag. For rich arm and right leg bore evidence of having been cut with some sharp instrument, probably a carving knife.

County Physician Charles B. Converse has been notified and will examine the body. There is a black and blue mark on the back of the head that would lead one to believe that the child had been hit with a flat instrument. The police entertain this theory and that the attempt to cut up the body followed.

SWINDLED SHOPKEEPERS.

Charge on Which Charles C. Rogers Is Held for Trial.

Charles C. Rogers, thirty-five years old, who gives his address as No. 160 Bleecker street, was arraigned before Magistrate Flammner in the Yorkville Court to-day charged with obtaining money from business concerns on upper Fifth avenue and Fifty-ninth street under false pretenses.

There were a score or more complaints against the man, all of whom allege that he swindled them out of sums of from \$1 to \$50. He went to their places representing that he had permission to put scrap-books of information in the reading-rooms of all the leading hotels and solicited their aids, collecting as the result of a trap laid by Detective Conroy and Miss Jean, a Fifty-ninth street girl. He was held in \$500 bail for trial.

BOAT WATCHMAN MISSING.

Belief that John Lannon Fell Overboard and Drowned.

The disappearance of John Lannon, thirty-five years old, a watchman in the employ of the Mallory line, was reported to the Old Slip station police to-day. Lannon was last seen at 10 o'clock last night on the barge J. B. Kelly, Pier No. 8 East River. The man's hat was found in the river and he is believed to have fallen overboard.

Accidental Victim of Gas.

James O'Neill, thirty-five years old, was found dead in bed at his home, No. 2 West Twelfth street. The police believe that he was accidentally asphyxiated by gas.

LED TO DEATH IN HOTEL ROOM.

Luigi Ceresola Found Dead in a Union Square Hotel from the Bursting of Blood Vessel Near the Heart.

FIRST CALLED SUICIDE.

Excited Employee of the Hotel Looked Over the Transom and Reported that He Had Nearly Severed His Head with a Razor.

Luigi Ceresola, a linguist of note and a member of a prominent Italian family, was found dead to-day in his room in the Union Square Hotel, having expired during the night from a hemorrhage resulting from a rupture of a blood vessel near the heart.

An excited hotel attaché who looked through the transom and saw the profusion of blood and the lifeless body in a corner near a stationary washstand telephoned to the Coroner's Office that Mr. Ceresola had committed suicide by nearly severing his head from the body with a razor, describing the bloody razor he thought he saw.

When Coroner Goldenkranz reached the hotel he found that Ceresola, who had been under the treatment of Dr. Gleitman several months, had died from the bursting of a blood vessel. It was evident that he had retired when the attaché seized him; that he got out of bed and found his way to the washstand. There he held his head over the basin until he became so weak from loss of blood that he fell in a heap to the floor and there expired.

He was about the hotel office from 6 o'clock until 8 o'clock last night, when he went to his room. He told the clerk that he had just taken a dose of medicine for his heart trouble, and that as he would have to take another about 11 o'clock he wanted a bellboy sent up to awaken him at that time in case he should fall asleep.

A boy was sent to awaken him at 11 o'clock, but received no answer. The clerk, believing Ceresola sick and sleeping, thought it better not to disturb him. It was when they found it impossible to awaken him to-day that they discovered his death.

MACDONALD'S BODY IN BRITISH CHAPEL.

English Army Officer Who Killed Himself Will Be Buried in Scotland.

PARIS, March 25.—The body of Major-General Sir Hector Macdonald, who committed suicide at the Hotel Regina here, was removed to-day to the British Mortuary Chapel, where it will await shipment to its final resting place in Scotland.

The French law requires that the bodies of suicides be taken to the morgue, but owing to the urgent desire of the British officials that the body of the distinguished officer be not deposited in the public morgue the usual legal requirement was waived.

It was said at the British Embassy that no orders had been received from London concerning the disposition of the body, and it is expected that the family of the dead General will make the final arrangements.

The officials of the British Embassy and the Consulate-General of Great Britain disclaim any knowledge of the existence of the letters which were said to have been found on a table in the room where the General killed himself. Mr. Inglis, the British Consul-General, said of the report:

"I have been personally assured by the Commissioner of Police that no such letters have been found."

There is evidently a desire on the part of the officials to shield the memory of the General out of sympathy for his family.

Rivet Slipped and Tore Out His Eyes.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., March 25.—Joseph Ryder, of Scranton, a boiler-maker employed at the local plant of the American Locomotive Company, lost both his eyes yesterday. They were blown out by a flying rivet.

FOOLED THE HOSPITAL.

Was Pronounced Incurable but Got Well on Pure Food.

Sometimes in a case of disease resulting from the use of improper food the symptoms are so complex that medical science cannot find the seat of trouble, and even the most careful hospital treatment fails to benefit. A gentleman of Lee, Mass., says: "On April 1st, 1900, I was sent home by one of our Massachusetts hospitals, saying nothing more could be done for me. I have been a great sufferer from nervous diseases and rheumatism and nervous prostration and had previously been treated at Sharon Springs and by a number of doctors without getting much assistance."

"One day I was feeling worse than usual when I read an article about your Grape-Nuts that impressed me so that I sent out for a package. I commenced using it at breakfast the next day."

"For fifteen months I never missed one day. If you ever saw any one grow strong and improve it was I. I gained from 125 pounds to my old weight 165. I will always be a cripple from rheumatism, but otherwise I am so much improved that I now feel as well as any man in this country." Name furnished by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There is a recipe book in each package of Grape-Nuts that will interest the housekeeper.

NEW SPRING TOP COATS. NEW SPRING SUITS.

Don't trust this fickle March weather, with its varying days of sunshine and storm. The new Brill TOP COATS are light enough for the pleasant days and a protection from the cool, damp night air.



Fuller stock, better styles, better grades for the fast-increasing trade at the busy Brill stores. E a s y, dressy business suits, elegant dress suits, staple blacks and nobby fancies. Every man's taste, every man's purse. Right in cut, right in make, and, not less important, right in price. See them.

are light enough for the pleasant days and a protection from the cool, damp night air. Fuller stocks and broader varieties in all four stores, and a full money's worth in every garment.

Top Coats, \$18.00.

All-wool black Thibet, lined throughout with pure silk; also an Oxford worsted, cut the nobby short style; also tan covert cloth coats, short or conservative lengths; silk lined.

Men's Suits, \$18.00.

Light or dark mixed Cheviots, dark mixed through-and-through worsteds; neat effects in cassimeres; some have double-breasted coats if you desire that cut; 20 styles to choose from.

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Four Convenient Stores:
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WOMEN'S BOOTS and SHOES.

The selections of Fine Footwear for the Spring and Summer seasons include a large variety of Oxford Ties, Sandals, and Blucher Half Shoes, of Russia Calfskin, Patent Calfskin, Glace, Mat Kidskin, etc.

The most fashionable lasts are represented, carrying Military, Cuban and Louis Quinze heels of various heights.

Slippers of latest designs are shown with a variety of new and unique bows, pompons, buckles, etc., for trimming.

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B. Altman & Co. are prepared to receive Furs for Storage according to the most approved methods, and under the usual guarantees for safe-keeping.

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We are now displaying complete and attractive assortments of

Misses' Suits, in Voiles, Etamines and Novelty Materials,

Misses' Shirt Waist Dresses of Foulard Silks, Linens and Cotton Fabrics,

Girls' Dresses and Frocks, A charming variety of White Piques, Lawns and Linens, also Colored Linen and Cotton Fabrics in many novel styles.

The Following Specials for Friday and Saturday:

Misses' Tailored Suits of cheviot, black and blue and fancy mixtures; sizes 14, 16, 18 years, Special value \$26.50

Girls' Sailor Suits, in the yachting and "man-o'-war" styles—with embroidered emblems, &c., &c.; sizes 4 to 14 years, Special value \$5.90

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